



Growing Manchester

Case study



LOCATION

Manchester City

CONTRACT VALUE

£150,000

CLIENT

*Manchester Health & Care
Commissioning*

PROJECT PARTNERS

100+ across Mcr

TIMESCALE

2011 - Present



Growing Manchester provides an abundance of free and nutritious food for some of the most disadvantaged communities in the city including people experiencing homelessness, mental ill health and those in food poverty.

Since its inception in 2011 with just 10 gardens, the programme has grown rapidly to include 115 community garden projects and more than 1300 growers. Projects are located across the city and range from a few neighbours greening up an alleyway to large scale market gardens providing food for sale, or hospitals growing food on site for patients.

Through this programme we provide:

 **Site assessments** – to help people transform derelict and unused land into an urban oasis. We assess the needs of the community through community engagement and co-design sessions and advise on soil conditions and the potential for soil contamination to produce a design for their project that meets their needs.





"Thank you for the enormous impact you have all had - the support from the Sow the City team has been invaluable to our team and customers who have had a really successful growing year."

Ann-Marie Parry,
Hub Manager,
Hall Lane Resource Centre



 **Community development support** – to encourage groups to become more resilient, realise their long term aims, and to achieve financial sustainability. We help groups engage with the wider community, attract more volunteers, apply for funding, and put appropriate policies and systems in place.

 **Workshops** – to teach them practical growing skills and increase wider awareness of how food production relates to climate and ecology. Our practical sessions include ecotherapy, social and therapeutic horticulture, healthy eating, and environmental sustainability.

 **Community networking** – to enable them to share knowledge, skills and equipment with other similar groups, and build their expertise and resilience.

